

(b) Report**(1) Submission**

Not later than 20 months after October 29, 2002, the Commission shall transmit to the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate a report on the results of the study conducted under subsection (a) of this section, including such legislative recommendations or model State laws as are required to address the findings of the Commission.

(2) Internet posting

In addition to the dissemination requirements under chapter 19 of title 44, the Election Administration Commission shall post the report transmitted under paragraph (1) on an Internet website.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §245, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1690.)

§ 15386. Study and report on free absentee ballot postage**(a) Study on the establishment of a free absentee ballot postage program****(1) In general**

The Commission, in consultation with the Postal Service, shall conduct a study on the feasibility and advisability of the establishment of a program under which the Postal Service shall waive or otherwise reduce the amount of postage applicable with respect to absentee ballots submitted by voters in general elections for Federal office (other than balloting materials mailed under section 3406 of title 39) that does not apply with respect to the postage required to send the absentee ballots to voters.

(2) Public survey

As part of the study conducted under paragraph (1), the Commission shall conduct a survey of potential beneficiaries under the program described in such paragraph, including the elderly and disabled, and shall take into account the results of such survey in determining the feasibility and advisability of establishing such a program.

(b) Report**(1) Submission**

Not later than the date that is 1 year after October 29, 2002, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under subsection (a)(1) of this section together with recommendations for such legislative and administrative action as the Commission determines appropriate.

(2) Costs

The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall contain an estimate of the costs of establishing the program described in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(3) Implementation

The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall contain an analysis of the feasibility of implementing the program described in sub-

section (a)(1) of this section with respect to the absentee ballots to be submitted in the general election for Federal office held in 2004.

(4) Recommendations regarding the elderly and disabled

The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include recommendations on ways that program described in subsection (a)(1) of this section would target elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities; and

(B) identify methods to increase the number of such individuals who vote in elections for Federal office.

(c) Postal Service defined

The term “Postal Service” means the United States Postal Service established under section 201 of title 39.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §246, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1691.)

§ 15387. Consultation with Standards Board and Board of Advisors

The Commission shall carry out its duties under this part in consultation with the Standards Board and the Board of Advisors.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §247, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1692.)

PART D—ELECTION ASSISTANCE**SUBPART 1—REQUIREMENTS PAYMENTS****§ 15401. Requirements payments****(a) In general**

The Commission shall make a requirements payment each year in an amount determined under section 15402 of this title to each State which meets the conditions described in section 15403 of this title for the year.

(b) Use of funds**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), a State receiving a requirements payment shall use the payment only to meet the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter.

(2) Other activities

A State may use a requirements payment to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections for Federal office if the State certifies to the Commission that—

(A) the State has implemented the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter; or

(B) the amount expended with respect to such other activities does not exceed an amount equal to the minimum payment amount applicable to the State under section 15402(c) of this title.

(3) Activities under Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act

A State shall use a requirements payment made using funds appropriated pursuant to the authorization under section 15407(a)(4) of this title only to meet the requirements under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act [42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.] imposed as

a result of the provisions of and amendments made by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act.

(c) Retroactive payments

(1) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, including the maintenance of effort requirements of section 15404(a)(7) of this title, a State may use a requirements payment as a reimbursement for costs incurred in obtaining voting equipment which meets the requirements of section 15481 of this title if the State obtains the equipment after the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2000.

(2) Special rule regarding multiyear contracts

A State may use a requirements payment for any costs for voting equipment which meets the requirements of section 15481 of this title that, pursuant to a multiyear contract, were incurred on or after January 1, 2001, except that the amount that the State is otherwise required to contribute under the maintenance of effort requirements of section 15404(a)(7) of this title shall be increased by the amount of the payment made with respect to such multiyear contract.

(d) Adoption of Commission guidelines and guidance not required to receive payment

Nothing in this subpart may be construed to require a State to implement any of the voluntary voting system guidelines or any of the voluntary guidance adopted by the Commission with respect to any matter as a condition for receiving a requirements payment.

(e) Schedule of payments

As soon as practicable after the initial appointment of all members of the Commission (but in no event later than 6 months thereafter), and not less frequently than once each calendar year thereafter, the Commission shall make requirements payments to States under this subpart.

(f) Limitation

A State may not use any portion of a requirements payment—

- (1) to pay costs associated with any litigation, except to the extent that such costs otherwise constitute permitted uses of a requirements payment under this subpart; or
- (2) for the payment of any judgment.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §251, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1692; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, §588(a), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2333.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter III of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), (2)(A), was in the original “title III”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 107-252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1704, which is classified principally to subchapter III (§15481 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Tables.

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is Pub. L. 99-410, Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 924, which is classified principally to subchapter I-G (§1973ff et seq.) of chapter 20 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1971 of this title and Tables.

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is subtitle H (§§575-589) of title V of div. A of Pub. L. 111-84, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2318, which enacted sections 1973ff-2a, 1973ff-2b, 1973ff-4a, and 1973ff-7 of this title and section 1566a of Title 10, Armed Forces, amended sections 1973ff to 1973ff-2, 1973ff-3, 1973ff-4, 15401, 15403, 15404, and 15407 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1971 and 1973ff to 1973ff-2 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2009 Amendment note set out under section 1971 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 111-84, §588(a)(1), substituted “paragraphs (2) and (3)” for “paragraph (2)”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 111-84, §588(a)(2), added par. (3).

§ 15402. Allocation of funds

(a) In general

Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the amount of a requirements payment made to a State for a year shall be equal to the product of—

- (1) the total amount appropriated for requirements payments for the year pursuant to the authorization under section 15407 of this title; and
- (2) the State allocation percentage for the State (as determined under subsection (b) of this section).

(b) State allocation percentage defined

The “State allocation percentage” for a State is the amount (expressed as a percentage) equal to the quotient of—

- (1) the voting age population of the State (as reported in the most recent decennial census); and
- (2) the total voting age population of all States (as reported in the most recent decennial census).

(c) Minimum amount of payment

The amount of a requirements payment made to a State for a year may not be less than—

- (1) in the case of any of the several States or the District of Columbia, one-half of 1 percent of the total amount appropriated for requirements payments for the year under section 15407 of this title; or
- (2) in the case of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, or the United States Virgin Islands, one-tenth of 1 percent of such total amount.

(d) Pro rata reductions

The Administrator¹ shall make such pro rata reductions to the allocations determined under subsection (a) of this section as are necessary to comply with the requirements of subsection (c) of this section.

(e) Continuing availability of funds after appropriation

A requirements payment made to a State under this subpart shall be available to the State without fiscal year limitation.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1693.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be “Commission”.

§ 15403. Condition for receipt of funds**(a) In general**

A State is eligible to receive a requirements payment for a fiscal year if the chief executive officer of the State, or designee, in consultation and coordination with the chief State election official, has filed with the Commission a statement certifying that the State is in compliance with the requirements referred to in subsection (b) of this section. A State may meet the requirement of the previous sentence by filing with the Commission a statement which reads as follows: “_____ hereby certifies that it is in compliance with the requirements referred to in section 253(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.” (with the blank to be filled in with the name of the State involved).

(b) State plan requirement; certification of compliance with applicable laws and requirements

The requirements referred to in this subsection are as follows:

(1) The State has filed with the Commission a State plan covering the fiscal year which the State certifies—

(A) contains each of the elements described in section 15404(a) of this title (or, for purposes of determining the eligibility of a State to receive a requirements payment appropriated pursuant to the authorization provided under section 15407(a)(4) of this title, contains the element described in paragraph (14) of such section) with respect to the fiscal year;

(B) is developed in accordance with section 15405 of this title; and

(C) meets the public notice and comment requirements of section 15406 of this title.

(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the State has filed with the Commission a plan for the implementation of the uniform, nondiscriminatory administrative complaint procedures required under section 15512 of this title (or has included such a plan in the State plan filed under paragraph (1)), and has such procedures in place for purposes of meeting the requirements of such section. If the State does not include such an implementation plan in the State plan filed under paragraph (1), the requirements of sections 15405(b) and 15406 of this title shall apply to the implementation plan in the same manner as such requirements apply to the State plan.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply for purposes of determining the eligibility of a State to receive a requirements payment appropriated pursuant to the authorization provided under section 15407(a)(4) of this title.

(3) The State is in compliance with each of the laws described in section 15545 of this title, as such laws apply with respect to this chapter.

(4) To the extent that any portion of the requirements payment is used for activities other than meeting the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter—

(A) the State’s proposed uses of the requirements payment are not inconsistent with the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter; and

(B) the use of the funds under this paragraph is consistent with the requirements of section 15401(b) of this title.

(5)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the State has appropriated funds for carrying out the activities for which the requirements payment is made in an amount equal to 5 percent of the total amount to be spent for such activities (taking into account the requirements payment and the amount spent by the State) and, in the case of a State that uses a requirements payment as a reimbursement under section 15401(c)(2) of this title, an additional amount equal to the amount of such reimbursement.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply for purposes of determining the eligibility of a State to receive a requirements payment appropriated pursuant to the authorization provided under section 15407(a)(4) of this title for fiscal year 2010, except that if the State does not appropriate funds in accordance with subparagraph (A) prior to the last day of fiscal year 2011, the State shall repay to the Commission the requirements payment which is appropriated pursuant to such authorization.

(c) Methods of compliance left to discretion of State

The specific choices on the methods of complying with the elements of a State plan shall be left to the discretion of the State.

(d) Timing for filing of certification

A State may not file a statement of certification under subsection (a) of this section until the expiration of the 45-day period (or, in the case of a fiscal year other than the first fiscal year for which a requirements payment is made to the State under this part, the 30-day period) which begins on the date notice of the State plan under this part is published in the Federal Register pursuant to section 15405(b) of this title.

(e) Chief State election official defined

In this part, the “chief State election official” of a State is the individual designated by the State under section 10 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–8) to be responsible for coordination of the State’s responsibilities under such Act.

(Pub. L. 107–252, title II, § 253, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1693; Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title V, § 588(b)(1)(B)–(3), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2333; Pub. L. 112–74, div. C, title VI, § 622(2), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 927.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 253(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, referred to in subsec. (a), is classified to subsec. (b) of this section.

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107–252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1666, known as the Help America Vote Act of 2002, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15301 of this title and Tables.

Subchapter III of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (b)(4), was in the original “title III”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 107–252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1704, which is classified principally to subchapter III (§ 15481 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Tables.

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993, referred to in subsec. (e), is Pub. L. 103-31, May 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 77, which is classified principally to subchapter I-H (§1973gg et seq.) of chapter 20 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1971 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 112-74 inserted “notice of” before “the State plan”.

2009—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 111-84, §588(b)(1)(B), substituted “section 15404(a) of this title (or, for purposes of determining the eligibility of a State to receive a requirements payment appropriated pursuant to the authorization provided under section 15407(a)(4) of this title, contains the element described in paragraph (14) of such section)” for “section 15404 of this title”.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 111-84, §588(b)(2), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), substituted “Subject to subparagraph (B), the State” for “The State”, and added subpar. (B).

Subsec. (b)(5). Pub. L. 111-84, §588(b)(3), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A), substituted “Subject to subparagraph (B), the State” for “The State”, and added subpar. (B).

§ 15404. State plan

(a) In general

The State plan shall contain a description of each of the following:

(1) How the State will use the requirements payment to meet the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter, and, if applicable under section 15401(a)(2) of this title, to carry out other activities to improve the administration of elections.

(2) How the State will distribute and monitor the distribution of the requirements payment to units of local government or other entities in the State for carrying out the activities described in paragraph (1), including a description of—

(A) the criteria to be used to determine the eligibility of such units or entities for receiving the payment; and

(B) the methods to be used by the State to monitor the performance of the units or entities to whom the payment is distributed, consistent with the performance goals and measures adopted under paragraph (8).

(3) How the State will provide for programs for voter education, election official education and training, and poll worker training which will assist the State in meeting the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter.

(4) How the State will adopt voting system guidelines and processes which are consistent with the requirements of section 15481 of this title.

(5) How the State will establish a fund described in subsection (b) of this section for purposes of administering the State’s activities under this subpart, including information on fund management.

(6) The State’s proposed budget for activities under this subpart, based on the State’s best estimates of the costs of such activities and the amount of funds to be made available, including specific information on—

(A) the costs of the activities required to be carried out to meet the requirements of subchapter III of this chapter;

(B) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out activities to meet such requirements; and

(C) the portion of the requirements payment which will be used to carry out other activities.

(7) How the State, in using the requirements payment, will maintain the expenditures of the State for activities funded by the payment at a level that is not less than the level of such expenditures maintained by the State for the fiscal year ending prior to November 2000.

(8) How the State will adopt performance goals and measures that will be used by the State to determine its success and the success of units of local government in the State in carrying out the plan, including timetables for meeting each of the elements of the plan, descriptions of the criteria the State will use to measure performance and the process used to develop such criteria, and a description of which official is to be held responsible for ensuring that each performance goal is met.

(9) A description of the uniform, nondiscriminatory State-based administrative control procedures in effect under section 15512 of this title.

(10) If the State received any payment under subchapter I of this chapter, a description of how such payment will affect the activities proposed to be carried out under the plan, including the amount of funds available for such activities.

(11) How the State will conduct ongoing management of the plan, except that the State may not make any material change in the administration of the plan unless notice of the change—

(A) is developed and published in the Federal Register in accordance with section 15405 of this title in the same manner as the State plan;

(B) is subject to public notice and comment in accordance with section 15406 of this title in the same manner as the State plan; and

(C) takes effect only after the expiration of the 30-day period which begins on the date notice of the change is published in the Federal Register in accordance with subparagraph (A).

(12) In the case of a State with a State plan in effect under this part during the previous fiscal year, a description of how the plan reflects changes from the State plan for the previous fiscal year and of how the State succeeded in carrying out the State plan for such previous fiscal year.

(13) A description of the committee which participated in the development of the State plan in accordance with section 15405 of this title and the procedures followed by the committee under such section and section 15406 of this title.

(14) How the State will comply with the provisions and requirements of and amendments made by the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act.

(b) Requirements for election fund**(1) Election fund described**

For purposes of subsection (a)(5) of this section, a fund described in this subsection with respect to a State is a fund which is established in the treasury of the State government, which is used in accordance with paragraph (2), and which consists of the following amounts:

(A) Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by the State for carrying out the activities for which the requirements payment is made to the State under this subpart.

(B) The requirements payment made to the State under this subpart.

(C) Such other amounts as may be appropriated under law.

(D) Interest earned on deposits of the fund.

(2) Use of fund

Amounts in the fund shall be used by the State exclusively to carry out the activities for which the requirements payment is made to the State under this subpart.

(3) Treatment of States that require changes to State law

In the case of a State that requires State legislation to establish the fund described in this subsection, the Commission shall defer disbursement of the requirements payment to such State until such time as legislation establishing the fund is enacted.

(c) Protection against actions based on information in plan**(1) In general**

No action may be brought under this chapter against a State or other jurisdiction on the basis of any information contained in the State plan filed under this subpart.

(2) Exception for criminal acts

Paragraph (1) may not be construed to limit the liability of a State or other jurisdiction for criminal acts or omissions.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, § 254, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1694; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, § 588(b)(1)(A), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2333; Pub. L. 112-74, div. C, title VI, § 622(3), (4), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 927.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter III of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), (3), (6)(A), was in the original “title III”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 107-252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1704, which is classified principally to subchapter III (§15481 et seq.) of this chapter. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Tables.

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(14), is subtitle H (§§ 575-589) of title V of div. A of Pub. L. 111-84, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2318, which enacted sections 1973ff-2a, 1973ff-2b, 1973ff-4a, and 1973ff-7 of this title and section 1566a of Title 10, Armed Forces, amended sections 1973ff to 1973ff-2, 1973ff-3, 1973ff-4, 15401, 15403, 15404, and 15407 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 1971 and 1973ff to 1973ff-2 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2009 Amendment note set out under section 1971 of this title and Tables.

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (c)(1), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107-252, Oct. 29,

2002, 116 Stat. 1666, known as the Help America Vote Act of 2002, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15301 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (a)(11). Pub. L. 112-74 inserted “notice of” before “the change” in introductory provisions and subpar. (C).

2009—Subsec. (a)(14). Pub. L. 111-84 added par. (14).

§ 15405. Process for development and filing of plan; publication by Commission**(a) In general**

The chief State election official shall develop the State plan under this part through a committee of appropriate individuals, including the chief election officials of the two most populous jurisdictions within the States, other local election officials, stake holders (including representatives of groups of individuals with disabilities), and other citizens, appointed for such purpose by the chief State election official.

(b) Publication of plan by Commission

After receiving the State plan of a State under this part, the Commission shall cause to have the plan posted on the Commission’s website with a notice published in the Federal Register.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, § 255, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1697; Pub. L. 112-74, div. C, title VI, § 622(1), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 926.)

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 112-74 inserted “posted on the Commission’s website with a notice” after “cause to have the plan”.

§ 15406. Requirement for public notice and comment

For purposes of section 15401(a)(1)(C)¹ of this title, a State plan meets the public notice and comment requirements of this section if—

(1) not later than 30 days prior to the submission of the plan, the State made a preliminary version of the plan available for public inspection and comment;

(2) the State publishes notice that the preliminary version of the plan is so available; and

(3) the State took the public comments made regarding the preliminary version of the plan into account in preparing the plan which was filed with the Commission.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, § 256, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1697.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 15401(a)(1)(C) of this title, referred to in text, probably should be a reference to section 15403(b)(1)(C) of this title because there is no subsec. (a)(1)(C) in section 15401 and subsec. (b)(1)(C) of section 15403 relates to public notice and comment requirements of section 15406 of this title.

§ 15407. Authorization of appropriations**(a) In general**

In addition to amounts transferred under section 15304(c) of this title, there are authorized to

¹ See References in Text note below.

be appropriated for requirements payments under this subpart the following amounts:

- (1) For fiscal year 2003, \$1,400,000,000.
- (2) For fiscal year 2004, \$1,000,000,000.
- (3) For fiscal year 2005, \$600,000,000.
- (4) For fiscal year 2010 and subsequent fiscal years, such sums as are necessary for purposes of making requirements payments to States to carry out the activities described in section 15401(b)(3) of this title.

(b) Availability

Any amounts appropriated pursuant to the authority of subsection (a) of this section shall remain available without fiscal year limitation until expended.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §257, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1697; Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, §588(c), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2334.)

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 111-84 added par. (4).

§ 15408. Reports

Not later than 6 months after the end of each fiscal year for which a State received a requirements payment under this subpart, the State shall submit a report to the Commission on the activities conducted with the funds provided during the year, and shall include in the report—

- (1) a list of expenditures made with respect to each category of activities described in section 15401(b) of this title;
- (2) the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds; and
- (3) an analysis and description of the activities funded under this subpart to meet the requirements of this chapter and an analysis and description of how such activities conform to the State plan under section 15404 of this title.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §258, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1697.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in par. (3), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 107-252, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1666, known as the Help America Vote Act of 2002, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15301 of this title and Tables.

SUBPART 2—PAYMENTS TO STATES AND UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO ASSURE ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

§ 15421. Payments to States and units of local government to assure access for individuals with disabilities

(a) In general

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make a payment to each eligible State and each eligible unit of local government (as described in section 15423 of this title).

(b) Use of funds

An eligible State and eligible unit of local government shall use the payment received under this subpart for—

- (1) making polling places, including the path of travel, entrances, exits, and voting areas of

each polling facility, accessible to individuals with disabilities, including the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters; and

(2) providing individuals with disabilities and the other individuals described in paragraph (1) with information about the accessibility of polling places, including outreach programs to inform the individuals about the availability of accessible polling places and training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers on how best to promote the access and participation of individuals with disabilities in elections for Federal office.

(c) Schedule of payments

As soon as practicable after October 29, 2002 (but in no event later than 6 months thereafter), and not less frequently than once each calendar year thereafter, the Secretary shall make payments under this subpart.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §261, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1698.)

§ 15422. Amount of payment

(a) In general

The amount of a payment made to an eligible State or an eligible unit of local government for a year under this subpart shall be determined by the Secretary.

(b) Continuing availability of funds after appropriation

A payment made to an eligible State or eligible unit of local government under this subpart shall be available without fiscal year limitation.

(Pub. L. 107-252, title II, §262, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1698.)

§ 15423. Requirements for eligibility

(a) Application

Each State or unit of local government that desires to receive a payment under this subpart for a fiscal year shall submit an application for the payment to the Secretary at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary shall require.

(b) Contents of application

Each application submitted under subsection (a) of this section shall—

- (1) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought; and
- (2) provide such additional information and certifications as the Secretary determines to be essential to ensure compliance with the requirements of this subpart.

(c) Protection against actions based on information in application

(1) In general

No action may be brought under this chapter against a State or unit of local government on the basis of any information contained in the application submitted under subsection (a) of this section.